Swimming Success
Call the people at Guinness World Records; Mingoola PS has chalked up a fifth consecutive victory at the Small Schools Swimming Carnival!
Congratulations to each of our students, all of whom can be proud of their efforts on the day.
Congratulations also to Monique and Jacolene for their strong performances at the zone carnival, only two days later in Glen Innes.

Collaborative Partnerships
While the 2015-2017 school plan may still be under development (due for completion next term), the work towards realising targets identified through the consultation process is well underway.

Last week, students in Stage 3 had their first video conference with students of Niangala PS and began the practice of collaborating in English. The girls in Stage 3 begin their work together by completing an information report individually, then uploading these to Google Classroom where they will peer assess each other’s work. Using the feedback from this process, the students will then collaborate to create a website that combines their investigations and work. We look forward to sharing the product with you in our next newsletter.

Following this initial trial of the collaborative learning model and technology, the practice will be extended to include all Mingoola PS students in years 3-6 and encompass (with additional collaboration with Bonshaw PS,) English, HSIE, PDHPE and Science & Technology.
Such an approach to the learning will be of great benefit to our students, particularly in the context of our small cohort.

Further Collaboration and Social Networking
To complement and deepen our collaboration and development of students' social networks, as of next week students will travel to Bonshaw PS once every fortnight. On these days, students in K-2 will participate in a literary text study and activities. During this time, 3-6 students will split by stages to focus on PDHPE studies. All students will then combine for sport and music, before returning to Mingoola.
This will be a valuable and ongoing arrangement between the two schools. Mingoola PS students will not be required to extend school hours to accommodate travel.

Attachments
- Fortnightly travel to Bonshaw PS permission note
- German Band permission note

Calendar
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPA Meeting</td>
<td>Mon 23 Feb 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>NNE Yr 3-6 Soccer Trials</td>
<td>Fri 27 Feb 10am – 2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Fair</td>
<td>16 – 20 Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Band Excursion</td>
<td>Fri 6 Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Phoenix at Mingoola Hall</td>
<td>Fri 20 Mar</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Excellence in Teaching Practice

Another project that will deliver on the aims of the school plan is our school’s leadership of instructional rounds within the Tenterfield Community of Schools.

Essentially, instructional rounds are a process of collaborative critical reflection on the efficacy of teaching and learning practices across our schools, followed by research-based improvement recommendations.

The practice of rounds will begin this term, with our teachers investigating student engagement at Tenterfield High School.

If you would like to know more about instructional rounds, or how it will lead to improvements for our students, the following links provide a brief introduction to the practice. Additionally, Mr Pryce is more than happy to discuss this and other improvement measures at any time.

http://www.classmoviestv.com/decnsw?movid=S9068-03-S4602-001

http://t.co/BkKJoVZU9F

Investigating Local Industry

Thank you to Mr and Mrs South for inviting our students to view their echinacea processing operation last week. The students enjoyed learning about the herb and how it is used.

Well done to Monique and Clarina who correctly calculated the average price per bag at sale.

German Band

Every second year, the Tenterfield Rotary Club hosts the German Beerfest in Tenterfield. As part of the event, all school students have the opportunity to see a genuine German band in concert. This concert, which students have enjoyed in the past, will be held next Friday. Please see the attached permission note, which should be returned to school this week.

Homework Feedback

At the next P&C meeting, I will be seeking feedback on the homework provided to students. Prior to the meeting, please consider which elements of homework you value and which you feel should be changed.

Learning Support

Miss Brown and Mr Pryce have been working with students at the start of the year to identify key areas of need in student learning. In addition to regular classroom learning, identified students will work with Miss Brown on Thursdays to target specific learning need.

Parents or guardians of students identified to receive learning support additional to that provided to all students, will receive notification of the nature of this support shortly. Please don't hesitate to contact Miss Brown or Mr Pryce with any concerns or queries about your child's learning.

Soccer Trials

Trials for this year's Northern New England soccer teams (years 3-6) are to be held this Friday at SHPMPS in Tenterfield. Students wishing to participate will need to have their own transport arrangements. Please contact the school for details if you child wishes to try out.

Book fair reminder - don't forget that book prizes will be up for grabs for best dressed in the theme of 'Kings, Queens & Castles' on Tuesday 17 March!

More details in our next newsletter.

Mr Cam Pryce
Principal

Mingoola and Bonshaw students joining for Life Education, Science and English activities.